

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 73
By Yokley

A RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to provide for a domestic energy policy that will ensure an adequate supply of natural gas.

WHEREAS, the natural gas imbalance is not a free-market problem and cannot be corrected by the importation of natural gas because the high price of natural gas is created by governmental policies that increase demand for natural gas while impeding the development of a greater supply by discouraging domestic exploration and production; and

WHEREAS, the price of natural gas in the United States, already the highest in the industrial world, has again spiked and shows continued volatility; and

WHEREAS, the United States is increasingly reliant on natural gas in our national energy supply, creating a tremendous imbalance between natural gas supply and demand; and

WHEREAS, the chemical and plastics industries of the United States, once leading exporters, now have large trade deficits, and thousands of jobs in this State and in these industries are threatened since these industries use natural gas as a raw material; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly support a sound, rational domestic energy policy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we urge the United States Congress to enact legislation in the 108th Congress providing for a domestic energy policy that will ensure an adequate supply of natural gas, including developing the appropriate infrastructure, and that will embrace a concerted national effort to promote greater energy efficiency, producing a political consensus that will open promising new areas for environmentally responsible natural gas production.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be forwarded to President George W. Bush, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Tennessee congressional delegation.